



*[Handwritten signature]*

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: )  
 )  
Tomoharu TANAKA, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2824  
 )  
Serial No.: 10/656,139 ) Examiner: Vu Anh Le  
 )  
Filed: September 8, 2003 ) Atty Dckt No.: 001701.00676  
 )  
For: NON-VOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR )  
 )  
MEMORY DEVICE ADAPTED TO )  
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STORE A MULTI-VALUED DATA IN )  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with the duty of disclosure. The references listed on the PTO/SB/08a form were cited in an European Search Report from a related application. A copy of the European Search Report is also submitted herewith.

Transmitted herewith is:

- ☒ [X] A PTO/SB/08a form
- ☐ [ ] A Background Art Information Paper
- ☒ [X] A copy of each item of information listed on the PTO/SB/08a form
- ☐ [ ] Concise explanation of non-English language information
- ☐ [ ] concise explanation of relevance:
- ☐ [ ] English translation of foreign language information

09/08/2005 HALI11 00000011 190733 10656139

01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

☐ English language version of foreign patent office report citing information

☐ English language abstract(s) of foreign patent document(s)

☐ This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. §120, on the earlier filing date of U.S. Application Serial No. \*\*\*\*, filed \*\*\*. The information identified on the attached PTO 1449 form was submitted to and/or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office in this earlier application and, therefore, copies are not required to be provided in this application.

1. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the later of:
- three months from the filing date of this national application;
  - three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or
  - the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no fee is required.

2. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the events noted in paragraph 1, but before either:
- a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution,
  - a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c), also enclosed is

☐ a fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) for \$180.00; or

☐ a certification as stated below.

3. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before payment of the issue fee, but after either
- a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution;
  - a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d), also enclosed is:

☒ a certification, as stated below; and

☒ the IDS processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p)(1) in the amount of \$180.00.

Certification under 1.97(e)1 or 1.97(e)2

The undersigned states:

☐ Each item of Information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement (e1 certification); or

☒ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement (e2 certification).

**TOTAL FEES:** \$180.00

☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0733 in the amount of \$180.00

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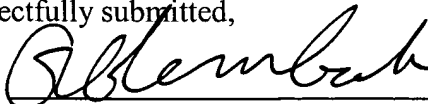
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for accounting purposes.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner fully consider each item of information, initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 in the appropriate place to indicate that the information has been considered, and return a copy of the initialed form to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP Section 609.

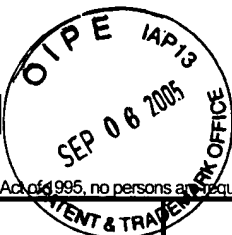
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 6, 2005

By:

  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0551-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

### Complete if Known

Application Number	10/656,139
Filing Date	September 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Tomoharu TANAKA
Group Art Unit	2824
Examiner Name	Vu Anh Le
Attorney Docket Number	001701.00676

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		5,986,929		SUGIURA, et al.	11/16/1999	
		6,411,551		KIM, et al.	06/25/2002	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sub>6</sub>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
			0 673 037 A1		OHUCHI, et al.	03/10/1995		
			EP 0 899 744 A2		LIN, et al.	03/09/1998		
			2 800 503		HWAN, et al.	10/31/2000		

### OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.